

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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38. *RIKLIELLA KERNII* (RAYMOND) RAYNAL, A NEW RECORD FOR ANDHRA PRADESH

(With a text-figure)

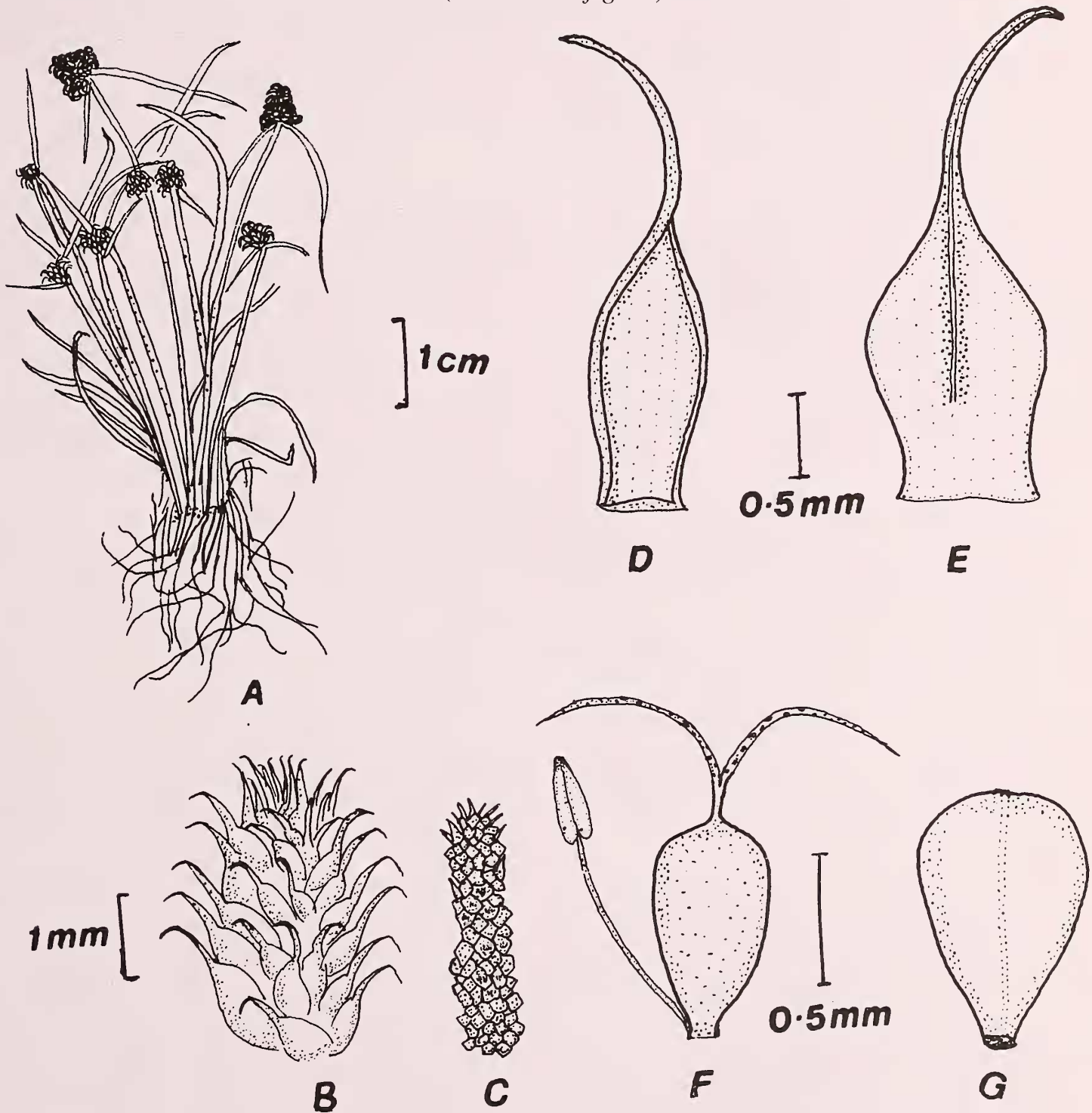


Fig. 1. *Rikliella kernii* (Raymond) Raynal: A. Twig; B. Spike; C. Rhachilla; D. & E. Glume entire and spread out; F. Pistil with stamen; G. Nut.

Intensive floristic explorations for aquatic angiosperm taxa in Andhra Pradesh yielded one rare and interesting taxon. Based on critical taxonomic studies and comparisons with authenticated specimens at MH and CAL, this was identified as *Rikliella kernii* (Raymond) Raynal. This was hitherto not reported from Andhra Pradesh. Brief description along with nomenclatural citation, ecological and phenological data is provided to facilitate easy identification.

Rikliella kernii (Raymond) J. Raynal, *Adansonia* Ser. 2, 13:155. 1973.

Scirpus kernii Raymond, *Naturaliste Canad.* 86:230. 1959; Raynal, *Adansonia* ser. 2, 8:95, t. 1, f. 1-5. 1968; Saldanha and Nicolson in *Fl. Hassan District*, 695-696. 1976. (Fig. 1)

Small tufted annual with brownish fibrous roots. Culms few to several, slender, up to 6 cm tall. Leaves only at base, 1-3 to a culm, filiform, subacute at apex, sheaths papery red-purple. Spikes oblong-ovoid, bearing many glumes imbricated on a straight rachis; spikelets reduced to a single glume subtending a bisexual flower; glumes obdeltoid-

obovate, cuneate; with an arista of equal length; stamens one; style very short. Achenes obovate.

Ecology: Moist places at low elevations, rare.

Flowering: August - December.

Distribution: WORLD: Tropical Africa. INDIA: Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh.

Specimens examined: Nirmal (Adilabad District), MHR & KI - 14577.

Note: *Rikliella kernii* (Raymond) Raynal is mostly akin to *Rikliella squarrosa* (L.) Raynal but it can be distinguished from the latter by its narrow leaves, bi-fid stigma and distantly spreading bracts.

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39. SOME LITTLE KNOWN AND RARE HIGH ALTITUDE SPECIES OF *POA* FROM GARHWAL HIMALAYA

Garhwal Himalaya represents one of the most interesting floristic zones, not only in the Himalayan belt but of the Indian subcontinent because of rich vegetational diversity, sustained in varied topographic, climatic and edaphic extents. The Poaceae is represented by maximum number of species (Duthie 1906), and the type genus *Poa* is the most interesting one, on account of its distribution in the temperate and alpine zones of the Himalayas as well as its ambiguity in taxonomic details, as it requires critical microscopic observations of glumes, lemmas, paleas, anthers and other phenotypic features (Rajbhandari 1991). In recent efforts on the floristic explorations to Garhwal Himalaya, we collected some interesting species of *Poa* from high altitude zones of Garhwal Himalaya.

Perusal of literature (Hooker 1896, Duthie 1906, Bor 1960, Semwal and Gaur 1983, 1986; Naithani 1985; Rajbhandari 1991; Uniyal *et al.* 1994), indicated that these species are new and or rare records from this part of the Himalaya, representing extension of their eastward or westward distribution.

A key of these little known species of *Poa* together with brief description along with their habitat, occurrence, approximate elevation and collector's herbarium number is given. Plant specimens were matched with the authentic specimens of Botanical Survey, Northern Circle, (BSD) and Forest Research Institute, (DD), Dehradun and deposited at the Herbarium H.N.B. Garhwal University, Srinagar-Garhwal (GUH).